

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SINGAP 04080 130647Z
ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-14 /033 W
-----101713 141316Z /11

R 130605Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1067
INFO AMEMBASSY BNAGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
USCG HONOLULU

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 4080

BANGKOK FOR STAFFORD, GAO; HONOLULU FOR LOWE, GAO

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: AGAO, SREF
SUBJECT: VISIT BY GAO TEAM TO DISCUSS REFUGEE PROBLEM

REF: STATE 228936

1. POST WELCOMES SINGAPORE VISIT BY GAO TEAM TO DISCUSS INDO-CHINA REFUGEE PROBLEM AND WILL DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO INSURE THAT VISIT IS FRUITFUL. DATES PROPOSED REFTL FOR VISIT PRESENT NO PROBLEM.

2. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT LENGTH OF TIME PROPOSED FOR SINGAPORE VISIT IS FAR GREATER THAN COULD BE PROFITABLE SPENT CONFERRING ON REFUGEE PROBLEM HERE. SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT POLICY ON REFUGEES IS WELL ESTABLISHED, SINGLE, CONSISTENT, AND UNLIKELY TO CHANGE IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ONLY HANDFUL OF SINGAPOREAN OFFICIALS ARE INVOLVED IN REFUGEE MATTERS. THERE IS ONLY ONE VOLUNTARY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE IN SINGAPORE, AND UNHCR IS REPRESENTED HERE ONLY BY STAFF MEMBER WHO HANDLES PRIMARILY ADMINISTRATIVE AND HOUSE-KEEPING MATTERS. EMBASSY EFFORTS, WHILE EXTENSIVE,
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RELATE PRIMARILY TO ASSISTING IN THE ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES AND THEIR SUBSEQUENT PROCESSING.

3. IN OUR VIEW, GAO TEAM COULD VISIT ALL LOCAL FACILITIES FOR HOUSING REFUGEES, MEET WITH ALL SINGAPORE OFFICIALS AND OTHERS SIGNIFICANTLY ASSOCIATED WITH HANDLING OF REFUGEES, AND OBTAIN FULL PICTURE OF REFUGEE

SITUATION HERE WITHIN NO MORE THAN DAY AND A HALF.

4. WE SUGGEST THEREFORE THAT TEAM ALLOW NO MORE THAN TWO WORKING DAYS FOR SINGAPORE STOPOVER. WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE THEM HERE FOR LONGER VISIT, BUT BELIEVE THEY WOULD HAVE EXHAUSTED THE SUBJECT WITHIN THE SUGGESTED TIME FRAME.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.
KNEIP

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP04080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780971/aaaacgsq.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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